

Serial No. 10/748,578
Attorney Docket No. 2001P06859WOUS

Amendments To the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1. (currently amended) A communication system for establishing a broadband connection between ~~two or more~~ a plurality of subscribers by switches in a communication network, ~~comprising: wherein on receiving a request from a calling subscriber to establish a broadband connection, the switches set up a minimum connection between said subscribers and, once the minimum connection has been put into operation by the subscribers, establish the required broadband connection.~~

a calling subscriber that sends a plurality of bandwidth requests, the plurality of bandwidth requests having a broadband request; and

a switch operatively connected to the calling subscriber that selects a minimum bandwidth, the minimum bandwidth being the smallest bandwidth within the plurality of bandwidth requests,

wherein a minimum connection is established using the minimum bandwidth.

2. (previously presented) A communication system according to Claim 1, wherein a data stream determined by the calling subscriber is transmitted via the minimum connection.

3. (currently amended) A communication system according to Claim 1, wherein one of the subscribers first initiates the establishment of ~~at~~the minimum connection and thereafter the establishment of ~~the~~ a broadband connection.

4. (currently amended) A communication system according to Claim ~~1-15~~, wherein the calling subscriber is ~~subscribers are~~ charged as early as the broadband connection setup phase.

5. (previously presented) A communication system according to Claim 4, wherein the establishment of the broadband connection has a higher priority in the communication

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network than the establishment of broadband connections which are not charged for during the broadband connection setup phase.

6. (currently amended) A method for establishing a broadband connection between ~~two or more a plurality of~~ subscribers in a communication network, comprising:

receiving a plurality of bandwidth requests from a calling subscriber operatively connected to a switch, the plurality of bandwidth requests having a broadband request;

determining a minimum bandwidth by the switch, the minimum bandwidth being the smallest value within the bandwidth request;

establishing a minimum connection between the subscribers using the minimum bandwidth ~~by a plurality of switches involved at the request of a subscriber to establish a broadband connection;~~ and

establishing a ~~broadband~~ connection between the subscribers using the plurality of bandwidth requests and excluding the minimum bandwidth ~~by the switches involved after establishing the minimum connection has been put into operation by the subscribers.~~

7. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 6, wherein a data stream determined by the calling subscriber is transmitted via the minimum connection.

8. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 6, wherein ~~a the~~ calling subscriber ~~first initiates the establishment of a minimum connection and thereafter the~~ establishment of ~~the~~ a second broadband connection.

9. (currently amended) A method for charging for a broadband connection between a plurality of ~~two or more subscribers~~ in a communication network, comprising: wherein ~~subscribers are charged even during the broadband connection setup phase~~

indicating a high priority broadband connection by the subscriber initiating the connection;

establishing the high priority broadband connection prior to establishing a non-high priority broadband connection; and

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initiating charges for the high priority broadband connection to the subscriber indicating the connection during setup of the connection.

10. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the establishment of the broadband connection has a higher priority in the communication network than the establishment of broadband connections which are not charged for during the broadband connection setup phase.

11. (currently amended) A communication system according to Claim 2, wherein one of the subscribers first initiates the establishment of ~~a~~the minimum connection and thereafter the establishment of ~~a~~the broadband connection.

12. (currently amended) A communication system according to Claim ~~15-2~~, wherein the calling subscriber is ~~subscribers are~~ charged as early as the broadband connection setup phase.

13. (currently amended) A communication system according to Claim 3, wherein the calling subscriber is ~~subscribers are~~ charged as early as the broadband connection setup phase.

14. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein a calling subscriber first initiates the establishment of a minimum connection and thereafter the establishment of the broadband connection.

15. (new) A method according to Claim 1, wherein upon receiving a minimum connection answer message the switch is adapted to establish a connection using the plurality of bandwidth requests and excluding the minimum bandwidth request, the connection includes the broadband connection.

16. (new) A method for establishing a broadband connection between a first subscriber and a second subscriber in a communication network, comprising:

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establishing a first connection between the subscribers;
requesting a broadband connection by the first subscriber;
establishing the broadband connection between the subscribers; and
providing a high priority broadband setup.

17. (new) A method according to Claim 16, wherein the high priority broadband setup initiates a charge for the broadband connection at a setup request.

18. (new) A method according to Claim 16, wherein the high priority broadband setup takes place prior to a non-high priority broadband setup.